

---

# SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

---

## NOTICE OF MEETING

**DATE:** Thursday, March 18, 2021

**TIME:** 5:30 PM

**PLACE:** Virtual Meeting via WebEx

## SCHEDULED FOR HEARING AND/OR CONSIDERATION

### **Senate Bill No. [60](#)**

**BY** Goldin, Valverde, DiMario, Cano, Murray

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - RHODE ISLAND CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES REPORTING {LC755/1} (Permits campaign funds to be used to pay all childcare expenses that are incurred as a direct result of campaign activity.)

01/19/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

### **Senate Bill No. [124](#)**

**BY** Calkin, Bell, Mendes, Mack, Anderson

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS {LC1006/1} (Restores aggregate contributions limits of not in excess of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) within a calendar year.)

01/26/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

### **Senate Bill No. [130](#)**

**BY** Bell, Calkin, Mendes, Anderson, Mack, DiMario, Kallman

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - PRIMARIES {LC282/1} (Requires that on all primaries, the candidate's names would be listed in an order chosen by lot under the direction of the secretary of state.)

01/26/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

### **Senate Bill No. [181](#)**

**BY** Mack, Goldin, Valverde, Acosta, Kallman, Bell, Anderson, Murray, Euer, Miller

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES {LC747/1} (Repeals the state voter identification law.)

02/05/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Bill No. [184](#)**

**BY Sosnowski, Coyne, Miller, Euer, DiPalma**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS {LC668/1} (Removes the requirement that mail ballot voters sign necessary mail ballot documents be notarized and/or signed in the presence of two witnesses.)

02/05/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Bill No. [185](#)**

**BY Sosnowski, Coyne, Miller, McCaffrey, Gallo, Euer, DiPalma**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS -- EARLY VOTING {LC667/1} (Authorizes early voting for registered and eligible electors, in all elections for the twenty (20) days before an election at designated city and town locations, with advance public notice regulated by rules promulgated by the state board of elections.)

02/05/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Bill No. [247](#)**

**BY Acosta, Kallman, Mack, Calkin, Goldin, Quezada, Valverde, Mendes, Bell**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - MAIL BALLOTS {LC1437/1} (Creates early in-person voting and online applications for mail ballots. It removes the two (2) witnesses' notarization of voter signature for mail ballots.)

02/10/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Bill No. [405](#)**

**BY Lawson, Coyne, Goldin, Murray, Euer, Cano, Sosnowski, Kallman, Burke, Lombardi**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- GENERAL PROVISIONS {LC1549/1} (Allows individuals, who have not reached the age of eighteen (18) years, to vote in a primary election, as long as the voter will be eighteen (18) as of the date of the general or special election.)

02/25/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Bill No. [423](#)**

**BY de la Cruz, Raptakis**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARY ELECTION DATES

{LC269/1} (Requires that the primary election date, typically the eighth Tuesday preceding the biennial state elections, shall be held on the Wednesday immediately following Labor Day, only if the eighth Tuesday immediately follows Labor Day.)

02/25/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Resolution No. [425](#)**

**BY Morgan, Rogers, Lombardi**

**ENTITLED,** SENATE RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY VOTER FRAUD {LC1482/1} (Creates a 7 member special legislative commission whose purpose it would be to study and provide recommendations to prevent voter fraud, and who would report back to the Senate no later than February 7, 2022, and whose life would expire on April 7, 2022.)

02/25/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Resolution No. [426](#)**

**BY Morgan**

**ENTITLED,** JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO CALL A CONVENTION OF STATES FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO SET A LIMIT ON THE NUMBER OF TERMS THAT A PERSON MAY BE ELECTED AS A MEMBER OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND TO SET A LIMIT ON THE NUMBER OF TERMS THAT A PERSON MAY BE ELECTED AS A MEMBER OF THE U.S. SENATE {LC1950/1}

02/25/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Resolution No. [427](#)**

**BY Morgan, de la Cruz**

**ENTITLED,** JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE, PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS -- A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE (MAJORITY VOTE REQUIREMENT FOR GENERAL OFFICERS' ELECTION) {LC1500/1} (Amends the constitution to require elections of general officers to be by majority vote.)

02/25/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Bill No. [516](#)**

**BY Euer, Sosnowski, Goodwin, Coyne, Cano, DiMario**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS {LC1938/1} (Makes very comprehensive changes to the election laws concerning voter registration, voter rights, mail ballots and early day voting.)

03/04/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Resolution No. [569](#)**

**BY DiMario, Euer, Murray, Cano**

**ENTITLED,** JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE - OF SUFFRAGE {LC2361/1} (Amends the state constitution to remove the requirement that you must reside in the state for thirty (30) days prior to registering to vote in the state.)

03/09/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Bill No. [608](#)**

**BY Paolino, de la Cruz, Morgan, Rogers, Pearson, Algieri, Seveney, DiPalma, Goldin**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- VOTING DISTRICTS AND OFFICIALS--POLL WORKER COMPENSATION {LC1956/1} (Increases the minimum daily pay for election supervisors from sixty dollars (\$60.00) to one hundred fifty dollars (\$150).)

03/11/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Bill No. [620](#)**

(Board of Elections)

**BY Archambault**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES REPORTING {LC1859/1} (Eliminates competing reporting requirements relating to referenda and consolidate all reporting requirements concerning the independent expenditures and electioneering communications for elections.)

03/11/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Bill No. [621](#)**

(Board of Elections)

**BY Coyne**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - MAIL BALLOTS {LC1861/1} (Removes the two (2) witness and notary requirement for mail ballot applications and mail ballot certificate envelope. It would also delete the requirement that person may vote by mail, only if they are unable to vote in person.)

03/11/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Bill No. [622](#)**

(Board of Elections)

**BY Coyne**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS {LC1858/1} (Repeal is to follow the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) and to account for permitting voters to cast provisional ballots at the polling place.)

03/11/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Bill No. [623](#)**

(Board of Elections)

**BY Coyne**

**ENTITLED**, AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS {LC1860/1} (Allows the board of elections to begin the certification of mail ballots (20) days prior to election day and require notice of such certification sessions. It also establishes a new and more comprehensive mail ballot voter signature verification process.)

03/11/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Bill No. [624](#)**

(Board of Elections)

**BY Archambault**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- WRITE-IN VOTES {LC1862/1}

(Requires all write in candidates to file prior to election a declaration of intent to run for office with the secretary of state. Finally it would require the board of elections to report all votes received by declared write in candidates.)

03/11/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Bill No. [625](#)**

(Board of Elections)

**BY Archambault**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- NOMINATION OF PARTY AND

INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES {LC1863/1} (Allows voters to endorse nomination of candidacy documents by mail, email, or facsimile and deliver to the candidate or board of canvassers in-person, via mail, email or facsimile.)

03/11/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Resolution No. [15](#)**

**BY McCaffrey, Raptakis, Gallo, Goodwin**

**ENTITLED,** JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE -- PROCEDURE TO FILL VACANCY IN OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, ATTORNEY GENERAL OR GENERAL TREASURER {LC758/1} (This joint resolution would present to the electors a Rhode Island constitutional amendment which would create a procedure to fill vacancies in the offices of secretary of state, attorney general or general treasurer.)

01/15/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Bill No. [57](#)**

**BY McCaffrey, Raptakis, DiPalma, Gallo, Goodwin**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- GENERAL STATE OFFICES

{LC791/1} (Requires a special election to fill a vacancy in the office of secretary of state, attorney general or general treasurer if more than one year is left in the term of office.)

01/19/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**Senate Resolution No. [125](#)**

**BY Raptakis, Felag, Paolino, Sosnowski, de la Cruz, Rogers**

**ENTITLED,** JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE -- REFERENDUM ON LINE ITEM VETO {LC456/1} (This proposed amendment to the Constitution would provide the governor with a line item veto on the budget and other bills for the appropriation of money.)

01/26/2021 Introduced, referred to Senate Judiciary

03/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**The State House continues to be closed to the public at this time.**

This meeting will be streamed live online through Capitol TV

<http://www.rilegislature.gov/CapTV/Pages/default.aspx>

#### **TESTIMONY SUBMITTAL**

Written testimony is encouraged and can be submitted to the committee by emailing it to:

[jpbaxter@rilegislature.gov](mailto:jpbaxter@rilegislature.gov)

\*Written Testimony must be submitted prior to 2:00 PM on Thursday, March 18, 2021, in order for it to be provided to the members of the committee at the hearing and to be included in the meeting records.

Members of the public can request to provide verbal testimony to the committee through the following link: [VERBAL TESTIMONY](#)

**\*Requests to provide verbal testimony must be submitted by 4:00 PM on Wednesday, March 17, 2021.**

Joseph P. Baxter

Committee Clerk

222-4668

[jpbaxter@rilegislature.gov](mailto:jpbaxter@rilegislature.gov)

**POSTED: FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2021, 3:25 PM**